

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 SP-03 COA-02 DLOS-07 SCI-06 IO-14

FEA-02 TRSE-00 EB-11 COME-00 DRC-01 OMB-01 /129 W

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R 061131Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7609

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 11996

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, VS, CB, ENRG

SUBJECT: GKR ISSUES DECLARATION ON OIL DISPUTE

REFS: A.SAIGON 11637

B. STATE 195226

C. PHNOM PENH 11905

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF
DECLARATION ISSUED AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 6 BY ACTING MINISTER
OF INFORMATION LOEUNG NAL:

BEGIN TEXT

(1) THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC REGRETS THAT THE
SPOKESMAN OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DIS-
CLOSED, ON SEPTEMBER 5, THE TENOR OF THE DIPLOMATIC NOTE SENT
AUGUST 29, 1974 BY HIS GOVERNMENT TO THE KHMER GOVERN-
MENT CONCERNING THE DRILLING BEING DONE AT PRESENT BY
THE ELF COMPANY OF CAMBODIA NEAR THE ISLAND OF KOH ACH
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SES (POULO WEI).

(2) THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC RESPONDED BY NOTE ON SEPTEMBER 6 TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM THAT THE AREAS OF DRILLING, WHICH WERE THE OBJECT OF THE NOTE OF PROTEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, ARE SITUATED WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE KHMER CONTINENTAL SHELF.

(3) THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC HAD THEREFORE AUTHORIZED THE ELF COMPANY OF CAMBODIA TO CARRY OUT THE DRILLING IN THE ZONE CONCERNED, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONTRACT CONCLUDED NOVEMBER 22, 1969 BETWEEN ITSELF AND THIS FOREIGN COMPANY. THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE GONE ON SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1972 WITHOUT EVER HAVING GIVEN RISE TO ANY INCIDENT.

(4) FINALLY, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WILL REEXAMINE THE PROBLEM WHICH EXISTS AT THE PRESENT TIME, WITH A VIEW TO BRINGING ABOUT A SOLUTION BY PEACEFUL MEANS. END TEXT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

COMMENT: THE ABOVE COMMUNIQUE, TOGETHER WITH THE SEPTEMBER 6 NOTE FROM THE GKR REPLYING TO THE SVN NOTE OF AUGUST 29, WAS THE PRODUCT OF AN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 6, AT WHICH THE GKR AMBASSADOR TO SAIGON WAS PRESENT. WHILE THE ABOVE PRESS STATEMENT BY IMPLICATION REJECTS THE SVN ULTIMATUM TO REMOVE THE RIG WITHIN FIFTEEN DAYS OR FACE THE USE OF FORCE, IT CLOSES WITH A REQUEST THAT THE GVN REEXAMINE THE PROBLEM WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT A SOLUTION BY PEACEFUL MEANS, I.E., A CLEAR CALL TO NEGOTIATE THE DISPUTE.

3. FOR THE RECORD, THIS EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO APPROACH FROM EITHER EXXON OR ELF, THOUGH WE BELIEVE THE LATTER HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FRENCH EMBASSY HERE. END CONFIDENTIAL.

KEELEY

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Message Attributes

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